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URGENT

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ASAP**

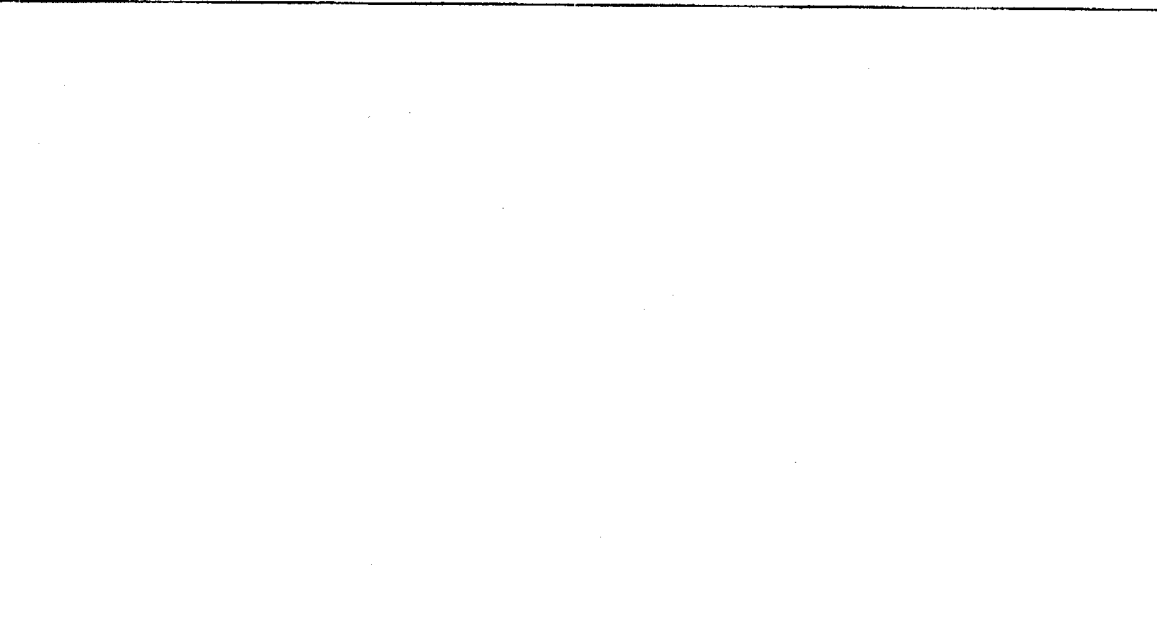
PLEASE COMMENT

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

TOTAL PAGES, INCLUDING COVER:

3



United States v. Microsoft

"Public comment is invited within 60 days of the date of this notice. Such comments, and responses thereto, will be published in the Federal Register and filed with the Court. Comments should be directed to Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney, Suite 1200, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice, 601 D Street NW, Washington, DC 20530; (facsimile) 202-616-9937 or 202-307-1545; or e-mail microsoft.atr@usdoj.gov. While comments may also be sent by regular mail, in light of recent events affecting the delivery of all types of mail to the Department of Justice, including U.S. Postal Service and other commercial delivery services, and current uncertainties concerning when the timely delivery of this mail may resume, the Department strongly encourages, whenever possible, that comments be submitted via email or facsimile."

I am an Engineering Director for a privately held company and I am familiar with computing and the computer industry since the 1980s, and have seen the adverse effects of Microsoft's monopolies in these areas. I cannot see how the settlement that is proposed even pretends to remedy the antitrust violations for which Microsoft has been found guilty. The company has, already been found in violation, and this is the penalty phase of the case, but the settlement contains no penalties and actually advances Microsoft's operating system monopoly. A just penalty, I continue, would at barest minimum include three additional features:

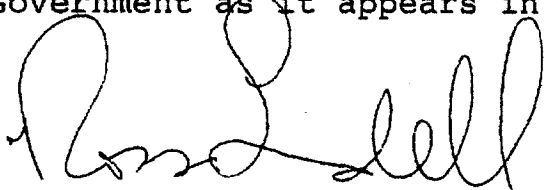
- * Any remedy seeking to prevent an extension of Microsoft's monopoly must place Microsoft products as extra-cost options in the purchase of new computers, so that the user who does not wish to purchase them is not forced to do so. Computer vendors must offer the software without the computer (which would prevent computer makers from saying that the difference in price is only a few dollars). Only then could competition come to exist in a meaningful way.

- * The specifications of Microsoft's present and future document file formats must be made public, so

that documents created in Microsoft applications may be read by programs from other makers, on Microsoft's or other operating systems. This is in addition to opening the Windows application program interface (API, the set of "hooks" that allow other parties to write applications for Windows operating systems), which is already part of the proposed settlement.

* Any Microsoft networking protocols must be published in full and approved by an independent network protocol body. This would prevent Microsoft from seizing *de facto* control of the Internet.

I believe this is of national interest, and therefore, it is crucial that Microsoft's operating system monopoly **not** be extended. It is well documented by the Center for Strategic and International Studies, among others, that the use of Microsoft software poses a national security risk- their sloppy attitude about privacy and security is un-American and should be corrected, opposed to encouraged by the United States Government as it appears in the current settlement.



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